

Five Orangutans rescued from Balasore forest

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

@ Balasore/Bhubaneswar

LOCALS venturing into the Bichitrapur casuarina forest in Balasore on Tuesday morning were in for an unusual sight of five baby apes huddled near a bush. The sight of the orange-furred primates, completely alien to the landscape, left the villagers startled. They immediately alerted forest officials, who rushed to the spot and identified them as orangutans, a species native to the rainforests of Southeast Asia.

The infant apes, aged between six months and one year, appeared to have been abandoned in the forest. They were then rescued by the forest patrolling team from the Udayapur section of the Jaleswar range.

Regional chief conservator of forests (RCCF), Baripada, Prakash Chand Gogineni told TNIE, the forest personnel found the five orangutans in an abandoned condition. "All of them have been brought to the Udayapur forest section. A team of veterinary doctors from Simlipal National Park examined their health after which they



The infant apes appeared to have been abandoned in the forest | EXPRESS

were taken to the Balasore division office," he said. State Forest, Environment and Climate Change minister Ganesh Ram Singhhuntia, who was briefed on the unusual development, said prima facie it appeared to be an act of botched smuggling.

"The species is non-native to India and mostly found in the rainforests of Malaysia, Indonesia and Sumatra in Southeast Asia. We are suspecting that they were being smuggled through Odisha and abandoned in the Bichitrapur forest fearing detection and action. The state government will approach Wildlife Crime Control Bureau (WCCB) to investigate how the critically endangered apes entered the state and ended up in Bichitrapur forest," he said.

Man sent to gallows for raping five set free by HC

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

@ Madurai

THE Madurai Bench of the Madras HC on Tuesday acquitted a 49-year-old man who was sentenced to death by a trial court in Sivaganga in April this year on charges of sexually assaulting five minor girls in Sivaganga district in 2024.

Allowing an appeal filed by the man challenging the conviction and death sentence, which

had been referred to the high court for approval, a bench of Justices N Anand Venkatesh and KK Ramakrishnan said the man did not receive a fair trial.

Due to denial of effective legal assistance, inadequacy of records regarding cross-examination, procedural irregularities, among others, the trial proceedings have been reduced to a mockery of the constitutional guarantee of a fair trial and have resulted in a grave miscar-

riage of justice, they opined.

According to the prosecution, the man had lured the victim girls, who were aged below 10 years, to his house by offering them money, snacks and also letting them play video games on his mobile phone, in which he allegedly showed obscene content before committing penetrative sexual assault on them.

However, the prosecution nei-

ther proved the charges of penetrative sexual assault, nor did it recover the mobile phone used by the man to 'lure' the victims, the judges noted. They also opined that the statements of the victims were not cogent and raised doubts whether they had been tutored by their parents who had previous enmity with the man.

The trial judge also failed to

comply with the guidelines laid down by the SC in cases involving capital punishment, they added. Since the prosecution did not establish the guilt of the accused beyond reasonable doubt, they set aside the conviction and sentence imposed on him. But, citing that the victims themselves appear to have suffered at the hands of parents, they refrained from directing recovery of the compensation granted to them.

12 including 10 kids fall ill after eating biryani

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

@ Thanjavur

AS many as 12 people including 10 children fell ill after eating chicken biryani from a newly opened shop in Tiruppanandal on Monday. They were admitted past midnight of Monday to Kumbakonam Govt Hospital with complaints of vomiting. Their condition is stable.

Sources said a biryani eatery was inaugurated on Monday near Tiruppanandal panchayat union office. The owner G Gopalakrishnan offered one biryani free for purchasing biryani and there was brisk sales from 9 am to 4 pm.

In the evening, a few people developed vomiting and went to Tiruppanandal Government



Children being treated at Kumbakonam GH after consuming biryani | EXPRESS

Hospital where they were given first aid and referred to Government Hospital at Kumbakonam. According to sources, a total of 12 people including 10 children were admitted past-midnight at Kumbakonam GH. Of those admitted, there were

two women aged 23 years and 60 years respectively. Of the ten children aged below 16 years, there are five boys and five girls. Hospital sources said the conditions of all of them are stable. They will be discharged on Wednesday after observation.

The shop remained closed on Tuesday. Officials of Food Safety department inspected the premises and collected samples of raw materials. During the inquiry, the officials found out that the chicken biryani for the inaugural day was prepared at around 3 am on Monday. Some consumers who bought the biryani early in the day kept it till evening and gave it to children after they returned from school.

Illicit arrack sellers picked through auctions, says panel

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THE commission said the incident, which occurred between June 17 and 20, 2024, claimed the lives of 70 people and left 161 others with injuries ranging from partial to permanent disability. A total of 231 people had consumed the methanol-mixed arrack supplied by local vendors.

The commission revealed that in some villages, including Seshasamuthiram and Madhavacherry, village welfare committees conducted unlawful auctions to select persons to sell illicit arrack within the vil-

lage limits. Successful bidders were required to pay around ₹5 lakh after which they were allowed to sell illicit arrack without interference. Villagers who opposed the arrangement were allegedly threatened with social exclusion, the report said.

The 650-page report based on inquiries with more than 400 persons, including the affected persons, kin of the deceased, police personnel and activists, recommended setting up a separate Prohibition Enforcement Wing for Kalvarayan hills, besides urging the gov-

ernment to provide education, food and shelter to children orphaned by the deaths of their parents in the tragedy, and providing preference in government jobs to eligible members of the affected families.

"If the authorities vested with powers to monitor and scrutinise the storage, transportation and sale of methanol had been diligent in discharging their duties, the killer chemical could not have found its way from Chennai to Kallakurichi," the commission observed.

Despite a circular issued by the DGP in May 2023 following the Marakkanam hooch tragedy, another such incident occurred in Kallakurichi in June 2024. This, it said, "speaks volumes of the grave negligence and callous dereliction of duty" by the authorities concerned.

It also highlighted the shortage of staff at police stations, PEW and other departments, stating that inadequate manpower had hampered regular raids in the Kalvarayan Hills, where illegal brewing and distillation were suspected to have been carried out on a large scale.

The report noted that the accused arrested by the CB-CID neither possessed the requisite licence to import, transport, store, use methanol in the manufacture of other substances or sell it, nor did the person who received the chemical had a valid licence to do so.

The commission said the practice had been taking place with the passive connivance of police and revenue officials at the ground level. The money collected through the arrangement was reportedly used for common purposes, including temple festivals and renovation of public structures.

Issues raised by CM discussed many times in the past: Aadhav

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Nirmal Kumar also defended the CM's reference to arrests during the MISA period. He said not everyone arrested during that period could be described as a MISA detenu, as cases had also been registered against people involved in offences including waylaying, theft and crimes against women.

He claimed that MK Stalin had been arrested for ridiculing the 20-point programme of then Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, but there was no record to show that Stalin had been arrested under MISA.

Defending the CM, PWD Minister Aadhav Arjuna said the issues raised by him had been discussed several times in the Assembly in the past.

He said CPI leader Kalyanasundaram, along with former CM MG Ramachandran, had been instrumental in the formation of the Sarkaria Commission.

He further said the CM was engaged in "cleaning" the corruption committed during the previous five years. DMK members strongly objected to the remarks.

Following the Speaker's ruling, DMK MLAs trooped into the well of the House and raised slogans demanding expunction of the CM's remarks.

The Speaker repeatedly asked them to return to their seats, assuring Velu that he would be allowed to express his views.

However, the DMK members continued their protest. The Speaker then directed the Assembly Marshals to evict the protesting DMK MLAs. Several members were physically evicted from the House.

CPI, PMK oppose bill, term it bid to commercialise higher education

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

SHIV Nadar University and Sai University, which were established under separate Acts in 2018, will also be covered under the proposed Bill. The government said the changes were based on the recommendations of the Centre's Task Force on Compliance Reduction and Deregulation Phase II. It said the revised land norms take into account the space needed for academic buildings, hostels and other facilities, while also addressing the scarcity of land in urban areas.

While, the CPI and PMK opposed the Bill terming it an attempt to commercialise higher education, the Association of University Teachers (AUT) urged the government to withdraw it. In a statement, AUT general secretary K Raja said reducing land and financial requirements could lead to the rapid expansion of private universities.

He warned that the move could affect the affordability and accessibility of higher education, especially for rural students, first-generation learners and those from economically weaker sections. "We urge the government to reconsider the relaxations and hold consultations with teachers, students, parents and educationists before proceeding with the amendments," Raja said. Notably, under the previous DMK government, a Bill with similar relaxations was proposed in October 2025 but was later rolled back in February this year after it invited criticism from academics and teachers' organisations. Academicians cited that the DMK's Bill had a component of "Brownfield Universities" which allowed existing private and government-aided colleges to convert into a new university.

"Under the Brownfield category, government-aided colleges could have been converted into universities, putting thousands of teachers' jobs and affordable higher education for poor students at risk. So, we opposed it tooth and nail," said a faculty member of a government-aided college.

EXPRESS READ

Former Panchayat V-P run over by tractor

NAMAKKAL: A former panchayat vice-president of Pallakuzhi village near Mallasamudram in Tiruchengode died after being hit by a tractor on Monday, with villagers and relatives alleging that he was deliberately targeted over his objections to alleged illegal sand mining activities in the area. The deceased was identified as K Murugan (50), former vice-president of Pallakuzhi panchayat. Following the incident, villagers and relatives staged a road blockade with Murugan's body, alleging that he had been questioning people involved in illegal sand mining in the area and was deliberately targeted. Police held talks with the protesting villagers and relatives. Later in the day, the tractor driver and owner, identified as K Anandan (36), surrendered at the Mallasamudram police station.

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BEFORE THE DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL - II, AT CHENNAI
6th Floor, Shastri Bhavan, Subba Road Avenue, Nungambakkam, Chennai, Tamil Nadu - 600 006.
O.A. No.265 of 2024
Indian Bank, Rep. by its AGM, Ethirai Salai Branch, No.26, Fagun Chambers, Chennai - 600 008. ...Applicant

Versus
(1) **M/s. Sunflower Tech. Prop.** Mr. K. Manivannan, No. 1025/126, JA Endave, 2nd Floor, 6th Avenue, Anna Nagar, Chennai - 600 040.
(2) **Mr. K. Manivannan**, S/o Mr. V. Kandaiyan, No. 1025/126, JA Endave, 2nd Floor, 6th Avenue, Anna Nagar, Chennai - 600 040.
(3) **Mr. B.R. Dhamodharan**, S/o Mr. Ramachandran, No. 1B, Anantham Apartment, Jai Nagar, 2nd Street, Arumbakkam, Chennai - 600 106. ...Defendants

SUMMONS TO DEFENDANTS THROUGH SUBSTITUTED SERVICE
Please take notice that the above O.A. No.265 of 2024 has been filed against the Defendants for recovery of sum of **Rs.49,28,227.52** under Working Capital and Term Loan along with interest and costs.
When the above case came up on 24.08.2026 before DRT-II, Chennai, directed Paper Publication against you and posted the matter to 04.11.2026.
You are therefore, directed to appear before DRT-II, Chennai in person or through your counsel on **04.11.2026 at 10.30 AM** at 6th Floor, Additional Office Building, Shastri Bhavan, Nungambakkam, Chennai - 600 006, failing which the matter will be heard and determined in your absence.
G.K. Venkateswaran
Counsel for Applicant

EQUITAS SMALL FINANCE BANK LTD
(Formerly Known as Equitas Finance Ltd)
(REGISTERED OFFICE - NO. 769, SPANCER PLAZA 4TH FLOOR, PHASE II, ANNA SALAI, CHENNAI, TN- 600 002. PH-044- 42995000, 044-42995050)

SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTY

APPENDIX IV-A [See proviso to Rule 8(6)] - Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Properties

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8 (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002. Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower (s), Mortgagor(s) and Guarantor (s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged / charged to the Secured Creditor, possession of which has been taken by the Authorized Officer of Equitas small finance Bank, Secured Creditor, will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is basis for recovery of dues in below mentioned accounts. The details of Borrower (s) Mortgagor(s)/ Guarantor(s)/ Secured Assets Dues Reserve Price/E-Auction date & time and Bid Increase Amount are mentioned below:

Name & Address of Borrowers/ Mortgagors/ Guarantors	Description of the Immovable Properties with known encumbrances, if any	Reserve Price: EMD Price Bid Increase Price	Date & Time of E-Auction	Loan / Total Dues
Mr/Mrs Mahalingam N C/O Mr/Mrs Natesan Mr/Mrs Suganthala M C/O Mr/Mrs Mahalingam Both are residing at No 4/714 Thiruvalluvar St., Srikalagapuram, Tiruvallur, Tamilnadu, 631302	All that Piece and parcel of land and Building, Comprised in S.No. 256/1A, with an extent of 833 Sq.ft., Situated at Srikalagapuram Village, Pallipattu Taluk, Thiruvallur District, and bounded on the : (North by)- Pathway (South by)- Land belongs to Mr. Kuppam (East by)- Land belongs to Mrs. Rani (West by)- Land belongs to Mrs. Eswari	Rs.10,80,000/- Rs.1,08,000/- Rs.10,000/-	15.10.2026 From 11.00 AM to 12.30 PM	Loan Account No:- SEARKNM0282507 / 600000029710 Claim Amount Due Rs.1125978/- as on 17.04.2026 with further interest from 18.04.2026 with monthly rest, charges and costs, etc., (Total Outstanding being Rs.1235943/- as on 26.08.2026).

For details and queries on purchase and sale contact no- Sathish 9940286237, Boopalan E 8608578142, Karthik Kumar A 8939729580

The intending purchaser/ bidder is required to submit amount of Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) by way of NEFT/RTGS/DD in the account of "Equitas Small Finance Bank Ltd" Account No- 200000807725 and IFSC code- ESB0001001 Bhaaggyam Galleria New No. 18 , Bazulla Road, T-Nagar, Chennai-600 017, drawn on any nationalized or scheduled bank on or before date: 14.10.2026

For details for terms & conditions of E-Auction sale please refer to the link provided in www. Equitasbank.in & https://www.bankeauctions.com

JM FINANCIAL ASSET RECONSTRUCTION COMPANY LIMITED
CIN: U67190MH2007PLC174287
Regd. Office: 7th Floor, Chenergy, Appasaheb Marathe Marg, Prabhadevi, Mumbai - 400025
Email id: queries.arc@jmfcl.com | Contact No- 022-62241676 | Website: www.jmfinancialarc.com

SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES
APPENDIX IV-A [See proviso to Rule 8(6)], Provision to Rule 9(1) of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002
E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8 (6) and proviso to Rule 9(1) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.
Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower (s), Co-Borrower(s) Mortgagor(s) and Guarantor (s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the JM Financial Asset Reconstruction Company Limited (JMIFARC), acting in its capacity as trustee of EB Retail 2025 - Trust / EB Retail December 2025 - Trust ("Secured Creditor"), possession of which has been taken by the Authorized Officer of Equitas Small Finance Bank ("Assignor"), (Subsequently assigned to JMIFARC), will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is" for recovery of dues in below mentioned accounts. The details of Borrower (s), Co-Borrower(s), Mortgagor(s)/ Guarantor (s), Secured Assets, Dues Reserve Price/E-Auction date & time and Bid Increase Amount are mentioned below:

S. No.	Name & Address of Borrowers/ Mortgagors/ Guarantors	Description of the Immovable Properties	Reserve Price EMD Price Bid Increase Price	Loan / Total Dues
1. ("Borrower") 1. Mr/Mrs Radhika D. C/o Mr/Mrs Subramani ("Co-Borrowers") 2. Mr/Mrs Devaraj M. C/O Mr/Mrs Murguesan ("Secured Creditor") S. No. Muniammal S. C/O Mr/Mrs Subramani Both All are residing at No 56H No.35 2nd Street Kakkai G Colony, Minjur Post, Minjur, Tiruvallur, Tamilnadu, 601203	All that piece and parcel of land and building, Comprised in Gramanatham Old S.No.131/PART, As per Manavai Thoraya Patta No.98, New S.No.131/56 with an extent of 959Sq.ft. (88Sq.mtrs), Situated at Minjur Village, Ponnai Taluk, Tiruvallur District and bounded on the: (North by)- S.No.131/41 (South by)- Mrs. Bharathy's Plot (East by)- S. No. 131/57 (West by)- S.Nos.131/54,131/55	Rs.15,98,000/- Rs.1,59,800/- Rs.10,000/-	Loan Account No:- SERPYRM0413506 / 200001998451 / 700006911906 Claim Amount Due Total Outstanding being Rs. 1908785 /- as on 05.08.2026 with further interest from 06.08.2026 with monthly rest, charges and costs, etc.,	

For details and queries on purchase and sale contact no- Sathish 9940286237 , Karthik Kumar A 8939729580, Cruz R 9884393075 & Prashant Monde - 022-62241676

Encumbrances Known, if any: Not Known to the Secured Creditor to the best of its knowledge

Date & Time of E-Auction: 12.10.2026 From 11.00 AM to 01.00 PM
Date & Time of Inspection: 18-09-2026 to 06-10-2026 - 10.00 AM to 01.00 PM.
Last date for submission of online application for BID with EMD: 09.10.2026
The intending purchaser/ bidder is required to submit amount of Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) by way of NEFT / RTGS / DD in the account of "Equitas Small Finance Bank Ltd" Account No- 200000807725 and IFSC code- ESB0001001 Bhaaggyam Galleria New No.18, Bazulla Road, T-Nagar, Chennai-600 017, drawn on any nationalized or scheduled bank on or before date: 09.10.2026
For detailed terms and conditions of the sale, please refer to the link provided in https://www.jmfinancialarc.com/Home/RetailAssets & https://www.bankeauctions.com.
Date: 09.09.2026 Place: Mumbai Sd/-Authorised Officer JM Financial Asset Reconstruction Company Limited

JM FINANCIAL ASSET RECONSTRUCTION COMPANY LIMITED
CIN: U67190MH2007PLC174287
Regd. Office: 7th Floor, Chenergy, Appasaheb Marathe Marg, Prabhadevi, Mumbai - 400025
Email id: queries.arc@jmfcl.com | Contact No- 022-62241676 | Website: www.jmfinancialarc.com

SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES
APPENDIX IV-A [See proviso to Rule 8(6)], Provision to Rule 9(1) of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002
E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8 (6) and proviso to Rule 9(1) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.
Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower (s), Co-Borrower(s) Mortgagor(s) and Guarantor (s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the JM Financial Asset Reconstruction Company Limited (JMIFARC), acting in its capacity as trustee of EB Retail 2025 - Trust / EB Retail December 2025 - Trust ("Secured Creditor"), possession of which has been taken by the Authorized Officer of Equitas Small Finance Bank ("Assignor"), (Subsequently assigned to JMIFARC), will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is" for recovery of dues in below mentioned accounts. The details of Borrower (s), Co-Borrower(s), Mortgagor(s)/ Guarantor (s), Secured Assets, Dues Reserve Price/E-Auction date & time and Bid Increase Amount are mentioned below:

S. No.	Name & Address of Borrowers/ Mortgagors/ Guarantors	Description of the Immovable Properties	Reserve Price EMD Price Bid Increase Price	Loan / Total Dues
1. ("Borrower") 1. Mr/Mrs MAANO K. C/o Mr/Mrs KUMARAGURU ("Co-Borrowers") 2. Mr/Mrs GOWRI K. C/o Mr. KUMARAGURU V. C/o Mr. VAJRAVEL Both All are residing at T.S.No.404/6&House belong to Mrs.Suryagandhi (East by)- T.S.No.404/1& 3feet Common Path Way (West by)- T.S.No.404/1& House belong to Mrs.Suryagandhi	All the piece and parcel of Land and Building Comprised in T.S.No.404/6 with an extent of 238 Sq.ft., Situated at 3rd Division, Vallai Panchayappan Street, Kanchipuram Town and Kanchipuram Taluk, and Kanchipuram District, and bounded on (North by)- T.S.No.404/4&House belong to Mrs. Chukkupai (South by)- T.S.No.404/6&House belong to Mrs.Suryagandhi (East by)- T.S.No.404/1& 3feet Common Path Way (West by)- T.S.No.404/1& House belong to Mrs.Suryagandhi	Rs.5,00,000/- Rs.50,000/- Rs.10,000/-	Loan Account No:- SEARKNM0284861 / 200001486600 / 700001758218 Claim Amount Due Total Outstanding being Rs. 965911 /- as on 24.08.2026 with further interest from 25.08.2026 with monthly rest, charges and costs, etc.,	

For details and queries on purchase and sale contact no- Sathish 9940286237 , Prathap J 8056868756, Ajith Kumar 9176636671 & Prashant Monde - 022-62241676

Encumbrances Known, if any: Not Known to the Secured Creditor to the best of its knowledge

Date & Time of E-Auction: 28.09.2026 From 11.00 AM to 01.00 PM
Date & Time of Inspection: 14-09-2026 to 21-09-2026 - 10.00 AM to 01.00 PM.
Last date for submission of online application for BID with EMD: 25.09.2026
The intending purchaser/ bidder is required to submit amount of Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) by way of NEFT / RTGS / DD in the account of "Equitas Small Finance Bank Ltd" Account No- 200000807725 and IFSC code- ESB0001001 Bhaaggyam Galleria New No.18, Bazulla Road, T-Nagar, Chennai-600 017, drawn on any nationalized or scheduled bank on or before date: 25.09.2026
For detailed terms and conditions of the sale, please refer to the link provided in https://www.jmfinancialarc.com/Home/RetailAssets & https://www.bankeauctions.com.
Date: 09.09.2026 Place: Mumbai Sd/-Authorised Officer JM Financial Asset Reconstruction Company Limited